1		2	*3*
Biomass Power/Bagasse Co-generation		19,500	**681.53**
Small Hydro (upto 25 MW)		15000	**1634.00**
Waste to Energy		2700	**41.43**
o Municipal Solid Waste		(1700)	**(17.00)**
o Industrial Waste		(1000)	**(24.43)**
Solar Photovoltaic	20 MW	per sq. km.	2.65
		TOTAL	**5140.61**

*Restricted to around 20% of available grid capacity in respective States.

Assistance for Increasing use of solar energy

637. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether more assistance is proposed to be given for inreasing use of solar energy considering the heavy cost of installation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources is implementing programmes for encouraging the utilization of solar thermal and photovoltaic technologies in the country. In spite of their high initial cost, several solar energy products have become competitive to conventional energy systems with attractive pay back periods. Nevertheless, financial assistance is being provided by way of capital subsidy for some items used mainly in rural areas and interest subsidy for some other items used mainly in urban areas. Financial assistance is also being provided for demonstration projects based on new and emerging technologies. The Ministry is also providing support for activities such as training, awareness promotion, market development etc.

The quantum of financial assistance is determined on the basis of the cost of the product and the nature of the application. Considering the cost trends and available resources, there is no proposal to increase the assistance. However, efforts are being made to enlarge and accelerate the programmes so that more people can benefit from them.